FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

FILE NO. 100-11729

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	1/28/43	11/3,4,23/42	JOHN C. DOIG HJ

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
ALFRED F. CANWELL CARL D. CANWELL JOHN M. CANWELL	INTERNAL SECURITY (G) CUSTODIAL DETENTION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subjects, three brothers, allegedly past associates of Dr. HARM HENRY SCHLOMER, alleged pro-Nazi professor, Gonzaga University, Spokane, Wash. All subjects born U.S. and allegedly formerly connected with Jehovah's Witnesses. ALFRED F. CANWELL now Deputy Sheriff, Spokane, shortly prior to entry of U. S. into war, stated that German short-wave broadcasts were only news that could be believed.

- C -

Details:

This investigation was conducted as the result of information developed in the case entitled "HARM HENRY SCHLOMER, with aliases; INTERNAL SECURITY (G), CUSTODIAL DETENTION", Seattle file number 100-1513. It is noted that SCHLOMER, a former professor at Gonzaga University, Spokane, Washington, is reliably reported to have been a member of the German-American Bund; to have been the leader of the Spokane Unit thereof; to have entertained GEBHARD WILLIAM KUNZE, national Bund leader, and WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY, national ~~Selective Service~~ leader, during visits of such individuals to Spokane; and to have made many pro-Nazi statements. The SCHLOMER investigation was discontinued in August, 1942, due to the induction of such individual into the United States Army as a lieutenant.

[redacted] an informant in the SCHLOMER case, advised Special Agent WILLIAM V. SHAFTNER on August 27, 1942, that the three subjects of this investigation had associated with SCHLOMER and that he believed they shared his views although he had no specific information thereon.

b7D

AT SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

[redacted] was reinterviewed by reporting agent at his residence,

APPROVED AND FORWARDED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
W. B. Fletcher		181638-1	RECORDED & INDEXED

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5- Bureau
1- G-2 Seattle
1- G-2 Pres. San Francisco
1- ONI Seattle
[redacted] Seattle

[redacted] on November 4, 1942. He stated that he had been well acquainted with CARL CANWELL who is employed at the Spokane Emergency Hospital. He stated that CARL CANWELL had formerly been one of the students taking SCHLOMER's German language course at Gonzaga University and that the dissertation prepared by CARL for his Bachelor's Degree was on the subject of German Poetry. This individual, whose full name is CARL D. CANWELL, is, according to the Spokane City Directory, married to LUCILLE K. CANWELL and is employed as a hospital steward and resides at West 1921 8th Avenue, Spokane.

[redacted] gave the following description of this individual: b7D

Age	34 years
Height	5'7"
Weight	145 pounds
Build	Slight
Hair	Curly, light brown
Complexion	Medium
Occupation	Hospital steward; presently medical student

The wife of this informant was present during the interview and asked if she might advise agent of one fact which she did not have in mind at the time she was interviewed concerning the SCHLOMER case. She then stated that on one occasion she had said to Dr. SCHLOMER, "How can you teach students about America when you are in favor of Germany?" to which Dr. SCHLOMER answered, "I do not teach students in favor of Germany. I tell them the facts and let them make their own conclusions."

ALFRED F. CANWELL, according to Informant [redacted] is a brother of the last-named subject and is an amateur photographer and an enthusiastic golfer. While in attendance at Gonzaga University, he took various courses from Dr. SCHLOMER and appeared to be very friendly with him. [redacted] has no information as to the Nationalistic sympathies of this individual. He stated that at one time Dr. SCHLOMER had told him that AL CANWELL has three sets of license plates for his car and that his reason for having them was that if he should be pursued, he could change license plates. b7D

According to the Spokane City Directory, ALFRED F. CANWELL resides at East 123 12th Avenue, Spokane, Washington. He is described by informant as:

Age	37 years
Height	5'10"
Weight	150 pounds
Build	Slim
Hair	Light brown
Mustache	Yes
Marital status	Married.

JOHN M. CANWELL, according to the same informant, is a brother of the other two subjects, is older than either of them, and probably was never one of Dr. SCHLOMER's students. However, according to the informant, this individual was also very friendly with SCHLOMER. [redacted] stated that there were two other brothers in the family whose names were JOSEPH CANWELL and CLAUDE CANWELL. [redacted] advised agent that one other item had come to his mind concerning Dr. SCHLOMER since he had been interviewed on such case by Special Agent WILLIAM V. SHAFTNER in August, 1942. This was that he (the informant) and SCHLOMER had at one time, after December 7, 1941, had a conversation regarding the cooperation then existing between Germany and Japan, and SCHLOMER had stated that Germany was, of course, glad to use all the help which it could obtain from Japan but that after the war, Germany would not give much consideration to the Japanese. b7D

[redacted] furnished the following description for JOHN M. CANWELL who, incidentally, is listed in the Spokane City Directory as a laboratory technician residing at East 123 12th Street, Spokane:

Age	40 years
Height	6'1"
Weight	165 pounds
Build	Slim
Hair	Brown
Marital status	Married
Disposition	Sour.

Confidential Informant T-1 advised that for a number of years past she has been well acquainted with JANE MARSHALL and MARCINA MARSHALL and that both of these young ladies had been possessed of large fortunes in their own names. She advised that she became acquainted with ALFRED CANWELL inasmuch as he had become the boyfriend and later the husband of Miss MARCINA MARSHALL and that at about the same time she had become acquainted with JOHN CANWELL, who subsequently married Miss JANE MARSHALL. She stated that these two CANWELL brothers were inclined to become enthusiastic supporters of unusual ideas and that at one time the two of them had associated themselves prominently with the Jehovah's Witnesses organization; that at another time they had become connected with the Seventh Day Adventist organization. Shortly before December 7, 1941, the informant had visited the residence of ALFRED CANWELL, who was then listening to a short-wave radio broadcast from Germany. On this occasion, this subject made the remark, "These are the broadcasts you should listen to. Germany is the only country you can believe." On another occasion, MARCINA, who is identified as Mrs. ALFRED F. CANWELL, stated to the informant, "AL won't have to go to war because he is going to put his brother through Medical School and his brother won't have to go because he will be a Medical student." MARCINA, according to the informant, seemed highly

pleased with this arrangement and thought it was a very neat scheme to keep the two brothers exempt from Selective Service. The informant furnished the further information that ALFRED F. CANWELL is a professional photographer and that a few months prior to the end of the interview he had been appointed a full-time deputy sheriff at Spokane, Washington. She furnished the additional information that JOHN M. CANWELL, who married Miss JANE MARSHALL, is presently attending a university at St. Louis, Missouri.

- C L O S E D -

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT

T-1: [redacted] Spokane, Washington. b7D

OFFICE MEMORANDUM - UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director DATE: April 8, 1947

FROM : D. M. Ladd

SUBJECT: State of Washington
Un-American Activities Committee
Al Canwell, Chairman

SAC Maynor of the Seattle Office has recently advised concerning the information of the captioned committee and has also reported that Al Canwell, Chairman of the committee, will possibly call at the Bureau in the near future.

In view of the nature of this committee and Canwell's contemplated visit, available information concerning the committee and its chairman are being set out in a memorandum attached.

Attachment

AFL:PES

RECORDED & INDEXED

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100-181656-2

F B I

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

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FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
DATE 11-05-2009

April 8, 1947

MEMORANDUM

JOINT LEGISLATIVE FACT-FINDING COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES STATE OF WASHINGTON

A resolution was introduced before the Washington State House of Representatives on February 26, 1947, by Representative Al Canwell, Spokane, Washington, and Representative Sidney Stevens, Seattle, Washington, for the formation of a Joint Legislative Committee which will investigate facts concerning individuals and organizations whose activities indicate a purpose to promote internal strife, to infiltrate American institutions, and to impede the normal progress of the State and Union. This resolution cited a statement by Mr. Hoover, pointing out the seriousness of the Nation's problem with regard to the Communist influence.

This bill was passed on March 7, 1947, in the Washington State House of Representatives with eight dissenting votes. Al Canwell, Chairman of this Committee, which is to be composed of three members of the State Senate and four members of the State House of Representatives, recently called on Special Agent in Charge H. G. Maynor in Seattle to make himself known and to advise of the Committee's intended activities. He stated that the Committee intends to proceed slowly and will avoid making press releases regarding Communist activities without definite proof. He said that the investigations of the Committee will not be a "witch hunt". Canwell said that the chief concern of the Committee would be the investigation of allegations that certain members of the University of Washington faculty are Communists or Communist sympathizers. He noted that the Legislature could take action in this field as it has some control over the University's funds. Canwell further advised that his Committee would not be interested in bona fide labor activities, but would seek to identify and make known Communists who might be associated with labor groups.

Canwell inquired at the Seattle Office if he might obtain information from the files of the Bureau and was, of course, advised of the confidential nature of the information contained therein. He stated that he realized such was the case and had made the inquiry as a routine matter. He thereafter offered to furnish to the Bureau information which he felt might be of interest, and he was advised that if it came to the attention of the Bureau that the activities of his Committee were conflicting with the investigative activities of the Bureau, he would be advised. Canwell specifically stated that he did not want the activities of his Committee to

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

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DATE 11-05-2009

interfere in any way with matters of interest to the Bureau. Mr. Maynor stated that he was impressed with Canwell's sincerity and feels that if the Committee proceeds on the basis outlined the work of the Committee will be of real benefit to the State of Washington.

Canwell stated that he contemplates visiting Washington, D. C., in the near future and plans to stop at the Bureau, the office of the Attorney General, and the House Un-American Activities Committee for any suggestions which might be of benefit to his Committee.

ALFRED F. CANWELL

Background

Summary

Alfred F. Canwell was born January 11, 1907, in Spokane, Washington. He graduated from high school and attended Spokane Junior College and Gonzaga University, where he was regarded a superior student, but did not obtain a degree. From 1932 to 1941 he was engaged in the newspaper business, publishing his own weekly newspaper at Yakima, Washington, from 1932 to 1937. Canwell was a very highly regarded Deputy Sheriff for Spokane County from 1942 until his election to the Washington State House of Representatives. He is presently a member of the State Legislature and Chairman of the newly-formed Joint Committee on Un-American Activities.

(100-349552)

National Academy Application

The Spokane County Sheriff's Office applied for permission to send Canwell to the National Academy in January, 1945. Investigation reflected that all of his former employers, his current employer and several Agents of the Bureau recommended him very highly. Information contained in the Bureau files reflected that one [redacted] had alleged in January, 1943, that Canwell and his two brothers were pro-German. A reinterview of [redacted] in connection with the National Academy investigation reflected that [redacted] was a mental case and could not support his allegations. b7D

Information was also available in the files that a Mrs. W. A. Eastman, Jr., has stated that Canwell was pro-German and a member of the Jehovah's Witnesses. Upon reinterview during the National Academy investigation of Canwell, Mrs. Eastman retracted these statements.

In considering the National Academy application on December 13, 1944, the Executive Conference stated that any allegations of un-American activities against Canwell had been disproved. On the other hand, it was decided that Canwell appeared to be a weak applicant in that he seemed a supporter of unusual ideas or "fads" and was not adequately stable. It was decided that although it would be difficult to make a case against him, if his superiors wanted to insist on his attending the Academy, the Special Agent in Charge be instructed to make a discreet effort to get Canwell's superiors to send another man. The Spokane County Sheriff, when advised of the situation, requested a letter from the Bureau stating why Canwell was not accepted. He explained that Canwell was a Republican and that he, the Sheriff, was a Democrat and that therefore Canwell might think the Sheriff was responsible. No letter was furnished. The Sheriff did not select an alternate applicant due to the limited time available, but there has been no indication of ill feeling as a result of the declination of this application.

The files indicate that Cannell has been friendly with Special Agents Russell Eberstein, Samuel D. Smith and Brantley P. Chappell, all former Resident Agents at Spokane Washington. He apparently always has been and still is very friendly to the Bureau.

(1-3296)

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Seattle, Washington
June 7, 1947

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DATE 11-05-2009

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: WASHINGTON STATE UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE;
ALBERT F. CANWELL - CHAIRMAN.

Dear Sir:

On the afternoon of June 4, 1947, MR. ALBERT F. CANWELL, Chairman, Washington State Un-American Activities Committee, accompanied by MR. WILLIAM HOUSTON, formerly Chief Investigator, Civil Service Commission, Seattle, Washington, personally called at this office in connection with another matter and during the conversation brought up the subject of obtaining personnel for the above-captioned committee. During the general conversation I had with the aforementioned individuals MR. CANWELL mentioned that Special Agent TONY REEDER was in Seattle within the past ten days and was presently in the process of communicating with the Bureau in regard to accepting a position with the above-captioned committee. MR. CANWELL also advised that STAN LEITH, who is presently employed by Boeing Aircraft Corporation, Seattle, Washington, as Assistant Chief of Plant Protection Division, would also become a member of his staff in the near future. For the information of the Bureau, WILLIAM HOUSTON was formerly in charge of the Investigative Section of the Civil Service Commission, Seattle, Washington, and in that capacity has furnished considerable information to this office concerning cases in which we had an interest. The Un-American Activities Committee maintains their headquarters at Room 116, New Armory Building, 303 Harrison Street, Seattle, Washington, telephone Alder 2857.

The above is being furnished for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

H. G. Maynor

H. G. MAYNOR
S.A.C.

HGM:Mfg

RECORDED
INDEXED
EX-45

100-16638-3

JUN 14 1947

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
DATE 11-05-2009

May 10, 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM
MR. LADD
MR. TOLSON
MR. NICHOLS

100-181638-4

RECORDED - 83

On May 6th Mr. Al Canwell, Chairman of the State of Washington Un-American Activities Committee, called to see me accompanied by Mr. Houston. The appointment had been made through Congressman Horan.

Mr. Canwell stated that his Committee intended shortly to inquire into Communism in the various schools and universities of the State of Washington and he would like to be able to contact our Seattle Office and obtain from them any information which might be used as leads to this Committee in such an investigation.

I told Mr. Canwell that I, of course, knew generally of the work of his Committee, and that apparently he and his associates had tried to approach their investigations in an objective manner and that this was gratifying. I told him that the files of this Bureau were confidential but that I would get in touch with Mr. Wilcox, the Agent in Charge of the Seattle Office, so that he, Mr. Canwell, might talk with Mr. Wilcox when he returned to Seattle and if there was any information in our files of public record and which did not fall within our specific jurisdiction and could therefore be used as leads by his Committee I would endeavor to arrange to have such material made available to him consistent, of course, with public interests.

I have called Mr. Wilcox and have advised him of this conversation.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

G.I.R.-9

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
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Tracy
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Gurnea
Harbo
Mohr
Pennington
Quinn Tamm
Mc. Room
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Gandy

JEH:EH

SENT FROM D.O.
TIME 3:45PM
DATE 5-10-48
BY MM

52 MAY 18 1948

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols

DATE: 5-6-48

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: AL F. CANWELL, CHAIRMAN, STATE OF WASHINGTON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

Canwell was born January 11, 1907, in Spokane, Washington. He attended Spokane Junior College and Gonzaga University, where he was regarded as a superior student but did not attain a degree. From 1932 to 1941, he was engaged in the newspaper business, part of that time publishing his own weekly newspaper in Yakima. He was a Deputy Sheriff in Spokane County from 1942 until his election to the Washington State House of Representatives in 1946. In 1944 and 1945, while he was Deputy Sheriff, his superior recommended him for attendance at the National Academy, and he was highly recommended by Special Agent Russell Eberstein and other Agents who knew him well and by the SAC at Seattle. The investigation of him was favorable with the exception that in 1943 he had been reported as pro-German and a member of the Jehovah's Witness sect. Investigations of these allegations have been negative, but the Executive Conference in the Bureau on December 13, 1944, decided that although all derogatory allegations against Canwell had been disproved, he appeared to be a weak candidate because he seemed to be a supporter of unusual ideas or "fads," and it was recommended that the SAC at Seattle discreetly attempt to get the Sheriff to name another candidate. This was done apparently without offending either the Sheriff or Canwell, and before Canwell's name could come up again as a possible candidate for the National Academy he was elected to the Washington State Legislature.

On February 26, 1947, Canwell introduced a resolution before the State House of Representatives for the formation of an Un-American Activities Committee. The bill forming the committee was passed on March 7, 1947, and Canwell was made Chairman.

On April 7, 1947, Canwell called at the Bureau, hoping to see the Director and also the Attorney General. While here, he talked to Special Agent J. C. Strickland, offering his cooperation and saying that he hoped to receive the cooperation of the Bureau. Since he became Chairman of this Committee, Canwell has been in contact with the Seattle Office a few times discussing with them the need for personnel for his committee and the general problems of subversive activities. His attitude toward the Bureau has always seemed very good, and information in the Bureau files indicates that he has done well as Chairman of the Committee.

RECORDED - 83 100-181638-4

His Committee received nationwide publicity in February, 1948, following the testimony that it took from Harry Bridges' wife. Mary Bridges told the Canwell Committee that her former husband had been a card-carrying member of the Communist Party and had threatened her life if she exposed him. This testimony made headlines for the Canwell Committee all over the nation. The Bureau secured a transcript of the testimony. (100-181638; 1-2452; 1-3296; 100-3-20-656; 39-915-2617)

HDS:ecb

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DATE 11-05-2009

September 18, 1962

REC-52 100-181638-5

Mr. Walter Greenaway
Tonasket, Washington

Dear Mr. Greenaway:

Your letter of September 11th, with enclosure, has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and neither makes evaluations nor recommendations concerning any organization, publication or individual. Also, information in our files is maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. Please do not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to your inquiry. In view of the foregoing, I hope you will understand why I am unable to comment as you requested.

Enclosed is some material which I trust will be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (4)
Shall It Be Law or Tyranny?
Statement on Communism 7-15-62 NBC
Bulwarks of Liberty
Expose of Soviet Espionage

RVA:jpp
(8)

See note next page.

MAILED 8
COMM-FBI

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SEP 28 1962

Mr. Walter Greenaway

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. The enclosure sets forth in question and answer form an interview with Al Canwell who discusses the American Civil Liberties Union and sets forth derogatory information relating to Mr. John Goldmark and his wife, Mrs. Sally Goldmark, aka Irma Ringe.

Bufiles indicate Canwell has contacted the Bureau in the past. He has been described as being a somewhat flighty opportunist with whom we have guarded relations. The Director wrote a memorandum indicating that Canwell called him on 5-6-48 and inquired about communism. Canwell was advised he should contact the Special Agent in Charge of our Seattle Office to get any public source information available. In 1944-45, he was highly recommended as a National Academy applicant. Our investigation was favorable with the exception that in 1943 it was stated he was pro-German and a member of Jehovah's Witnesses. Our investigation did not substantiate this, but we requested that another applicant be recommended. It was noted he was a member of the Washington State Legislature in 1947.

TRUE COPY

To nasket Wash.
Sept 11, 1962

J. Edgar Hoover
Washington D. C.

Dear Sir:

I recently received the enclosed pamphlet in the mail. I would like your opinion of the American Civil Liberties Union mentioned in the pamphlet. And also if Mr. Canwell is qualified to give the statements enclosed

Truly yours

/s/ Walter Greenaway

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DATE 11-05-2009

REC- 52 100-181638-5
MCT - 14
13 SEP 26 1962
EX-108

Longacker Wash.
Sept 11, 1962

J. Edgar Hoover
Washington D.C.
Dear Sir.

I recently received the enclosed pamphlet in the mail. I would like your opinion of the American Civil Liberties Union mentioned in the pamphlet. And also if Mr. Cornwell is qualified to give the statement enclosed

Truly Yours

Walter Drennowsky

RJA:jpp

ENCLOSURE

ITC
9-17-62

CORRESPONDENCE

American Intelligence Service

A. F. CANWELL, Director

Vol. I, No. 2. W. 610 Sprague Avenue - - Spokane, Washington August, 1962

AN INTERVIEW WITH AL CANWELL

Question - "What are you presently doing Mr. Canwell?"

Mr. Canwell - "I operate a non-governmental intelligence service, specializing in security information."

Question - "Did you undertake this activity with prior experience in a governmental capacity?"

Mr. Canwell - "I have been in various phases of professional investigations for many, many years. My governmental activity in this direction had to do with directing the Un-American Activities Committee of the Washington State legislature."

Question - "As a consequence of your work and investigative activities in this capacity, did you have an occasion to investigate Communist front organizations?"

Mr. Canwell - "Yes, we investigated a great many Communist fronts. In investigating the Communist apparatus you must investigate the fronts because they are a principal way by which the Party extends its activity. One of the major activities of the Communists is propaganda and this is spread chiefly through fronts."

Question - Can you tell me anything about the American Civil Liberties Union?"

Mr. Canwell - "The American Civil Liberties Union is in my judgement one of the most effective Communist fronts in America."

Question - "On what do you base this judgement?"

Mr. Canwell - "It was organized in 1920. The founder of the American Civil Liberties Union was Roger Baldwin, whom the House Un-American Activities Committee and the Senate Internal Sub-Committee have listed as belonging to more than one hundred (100) Communist fronts. For most of the history of the American Civil Liberties Union, he was its active head. He is merely representative of many, many such personalities identified with the American Civil Liberties Union. Its activities have been largely on behalf of Communists and Communist causes, particularly when Communists are in trouble with the courts, or with legislative committees."

Question - Could you give me any information about the Washington State Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union?"

Mr. Canwell - "The Washington State Chapter is one of the most effective units of the American Civil Liberties Union because it has some of the ablest left-wing lawyers in the country on its board. There are men who are on many of the major Communist fronts, who also are officers on the National American Civil Liberties Union and on the State Civil Liberties Union."

Question - "Could you tell me what the position of the Washington State Chapter of the ACLU is in regards to the McCarran Act which requires Communists to register?"

Mr. Canwell - "The position of the Washington state chapter membership has been identical with that of the Communist Party. They want to eliminate the McCarran Act. They have been traditionally opposed to all anti-Communist legislation, and have opposed all legislation to protect us against the Communist conspiracy. They have always taken the position of defending the Communist Party."

Question - Mr. Canwell, upon examining a copy of the letterhead of the Washington State Chapter of the ACLU, I see the name of John Goldmark, who happens to be the Washington State Representative for the First Legislative district from Okanogan and Douglas counties. In the course of your investigations, did you run across Mr. Goldmark and his history of activities?"

Mr. Canwell - "Let me say that I have had a great interest in Mr. Goldmark. He is a brilliant young lawyer, a graduate of Harvard law school, a nephew of Justice Brandeis of the Supreme Court. A man with his legal training and background and family connections could probably obtain a job in almost any law office in Amercia, yet he is in the State of Washington doing anything but practicing law, and coupled with the fact that he has usually taken an extreme left position in his legislative activities, I have been interested in the man."

Question - "Mr. Canwell, what can you tell me about Mr. Goldmark's family? Is he married, and if so, to whom?"

Mr. Canwell - "Yes, Mr. Goldmark is married to Sally Goldmark. At least that's the name she goes by now. In my acquaintance with her background, she was known as Irma Ringe, and I came to know a great deal about Irma Ringe before I knew anything about John Goldmark."

I had investigated the activities of Alger Hiss and many people in the higher levels of Government who had betrayed this Government through their activity in the Communist party. And during that time, I became quite familiar with the Harold Ware cell in Washington, and the various people connected with it. Whittaker Chambers, whom I came to know well, and Elizabeth Bentley, Nathaniel Weyl, the man who wrote "Red Star Over Cuba", were members of this Communist spy cell in Washington. They were organized by Harold Ware, a top Soviet Agent, and the people in such a cell were Soviet Agents, and were exposed and revealed to be Soviet Agents engaged in acts of espionage. Men like Gregory Silvermaster, Hiss, Bentley, Chambers, Perlo and Kramer. In the early fifties the research director of the House Un-American Activities committee asked me to look into the case of Irma Ringe who had been a member of the second highest Communist cell in Washington -- one of those organized by Harold Ware, and in this cell were Victor Perlo, and Charles Kramer an espionage agent. And Irma Ringe had been a member of this group.

To answer your question, I found that she was living in the state of Washington and she was married to John Goldmark; and that John Goldmark was a member of the Washington state legislature.

In investigating her case, I found that it had been very carefully kept secret. A short time after this, the House Un-American Activities committee subpoenaed Irma Ringe to appear before it in Seattle, and at that time she told her story to the committee. She replied to their questions about her activities, admitted a former membership in the Communist Party, and an association with Charles Kramer, and

Please Turn Page Over

ENCLOSURE
100-181638-5

Victor Perlo and several others in this c[illegible] She stated that she left the Communist Party, and she al[illegible]ated in answer to questions about the espionage activities of this group that she knew nothing about that phase of it, that in these meetings with these high level agents that all they did was to sit around and talk about philosophical matters. This of course was very disappointing to the committee of Congress because they felt that she would be able to reveal a great deal of information and throw light on things they didn't know, as Bentley, Chambers, Weyl, and others had done. They were very disappointed that she was unable to give them any information other than that the group discussed philosophical matters."

Question - "This same Irma Ringe who has been identified, and who admitted that she was a member of this cell at this time is the same woman who is now Sally Goldmark?"

Mr. Canwell - "Yes, she is one and the same person, I might add too, that she says she left the Communist Party, and I would accept that in the light that it is given if her activity were such as to indicate a clean break with the party. Now, in my experience with ex-Communists, they are willing usually to give a great deal of information to the Government. Then in addition to that, to make up for the treachery against their Government, they feel obligated to take part in opposing Communism. By opposing it, I mean opposing the current Party line.

I can illustrate Irma Ringe's attitude very well on the matter of the film "Operation Abolition." A chief target of the Communist Party in the United States the last several years has been the House Un-American Activities committee, and an official report of that Committee known as "Operation Abolition".

Now it would seem to me that anyone who had been inside the Communist apparatus would know how important to the security of America and to the freedom of the world the operation of this Committee is. He or she would want to do everything in the world possible, it would seem to me, to help the Government of the United States through its Congress to combat and counteract Communism and Communists. That just seems to be the reasonable thing to me. So when I find a person such as Sally Goldmark who has been in the Communist Party on a very high level, and who has been treated exceedingly fairly by the House Un-American Activities Committee and by that I should state it held its hearing on Mrs. Goldmark in executive session and did not make public the minutes of that meeting or the transcript of the testimony. It was a very fair thing to Irma Ringe. And still, in spite of that, she has been very much opposed to the showing of the film "Operation Abolition", which is a report of the House Un-American Activities committee. Such a thing just seems inconsistent to me. I have no way of reading her mind, but I know that if I had been in the Communist Party, and I saw the light, I would then bend all of my efforts to opposing the Party and would join those who are opposing it and I would not be opposed to the House Un-American Activities Committee. I would not be opposed to people who are giving their lives and their energies to accomplishing security for this country and for the world. So I find her activity an enigma. I only wish that she could see Communism in the same light as Elizabeth Bentley, and Whittaker Chambers and others who were in the same Soviet spy apparatus, but who did so much for this country in revealing what the[illegible]ew."

Question - "Mr. Canwell could you tell me when Irma Ringe married John Goldmark, and became Sally Goldmark?"

Mr. Canwell - "It was in 1942. They were married in Washington, D. C., and then he was called to active duty by the Naval Reserve, and he served until 1943. After that they came out to Washington and he worked for an apple rancher down in White Salmon, which is the first place that I picked up their trail in Washington state. They then came to the Okanogan and suddenly became cattle ranchers."

Question - "When did Mrs. Goldmark indicate that she had broken with the Communist Party?"

Mr. Canwell- "I believe, now again I'm speaking without my record or notes in hand, but I believe she testified that it was in 1948 or '49 that she broke with the party, but I could be mistaken on that. I would wish to check my records. She did state when she broke with the party, and I believe she said it was when she came to the state of Washington or right after she came to the state of Washington; or it might have been earlier."

Question - "In drawing this to a close would you have any observations, Mr. Canwell, about the present state or condition of our internal and national security as a consequence of the Communist threat or infiltration? Is this threat just a thing of the past or something we need be concerned with at the present?"

Mr. Canwell - "It is my considered opinion, based on nearly twenty-five (25) years of experience in this field, that we are in the most critical situation in our history. We have one enemy the global Communist Party with its world wide apparatus which is working everywhere and we are being told by people who know better there is no internal threat in America. That is a dishonest assertion. It is a dangerous one. The Communist threat is world wide. It's both without and within. It's like an octopus -- the heart or the center may be in Moscow, but the tentacles are everywhere.

Joseph Kornfeder who was one of the highest Communists in America at one time and the only American to serve on the Comintern, said recently we should not be misled by the fact that there are assuredly between five and ten thousand known members of the Communist Party in the United States at the present moment. He said the Communist party would have a great many more members now if it wanted them. This cadre membership is what is convenient to the task that they have at hand. He said this five to ten thousand Communists represents as many professional organizers. They're hard core, disciplined Communists who are going to go all the way. The weaklings have been weeded out. These people are professionals; they're dangerous; they're out to kill us. Actually, to get an idea of how effective this number is for the Communist Party, imagine what we would give for five thousand professional organizers behind the Iron Curtain.

One can not overestimate the danger. These agents are everywhere. They are in key positions. They are in the ministry of the churches. They are in our educational system. They are in the scientific fields. They are at the highest levels of government.

Only a knave or a fool would underestimate the danger. It has never been greater."

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Wick
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

Al Canwell Speaker On Red Threat Within U.S.

Albert F. Canwell, Research Director of American Intelligence Service, will address a public meeting in Dayton on Wednesday, February 16, at 8:00 P.M. in Wampler's Red Barn.

Al Canwell is one of the most noted authorities on the internal threat of Communism in America today. He served as Chairman of the Washington State Committee on Un-American Activities—in which position he was the first person to publicly expose the connections of Alger Hiss.

In addition to his activities at the state level, he has served as Chief of the Identification Bureau in Spokane's Sheriffs Department and served on special assignment in Europe under Scott McLeod of the State Department. His extensive investigative background has been utilized in cooperation with the F.B.I. in exposing Russian activities during the Forties.

Title of his speech here is "Internal Subversion." The lecture, sponsored by Dayton's Open Forum of American Opinion, is designed to create better understanding of current issues. The meeting is open to the public, and tickets will be available at the door.

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